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Decisions adopted by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its thirteenth session

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Decisions of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its thirteenth session

13/1 Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for Technical Cooperation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Reaffirming the validity and continued relevance of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for promoting and implementing technical cooperation among developing countries,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences and Summits, including the Millennium Declaration, and relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of and complement to international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of economic growth and development,

Having considered the reports of the Administrator of UNDP,

1. *Notes with appreciation* that a growing number of developing countries, including pivotal countries, are initiating and sponsoring South-South cooperation activities, including technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, designed to benefit a large number of developing countries;

2. *Encourages* developing countries that have not already done so to put in place a national South-South cooperation policy and coordination mechanism, as appropriate, including a clear delineation of the role of the national focal point and the various partners for such cooperation, as part of their development programmes and strategies;

3. *Emphasizes* the important contribution of triangular cooperation arrangements to facilitate South-South cooperation and *encourages* developing countries, regional and subregional institutions and centres of excellence, with the assistance, as appropriate, of the Special Unit, to draw lessons from experiences in triangular cooperation and design innovative South-South cooperation programmes;

4. *Encourages* Member States and international institutions, in designing, formulating and executing projects for technical cooperation in developing countries, to give priority to the use of local capabilities, consultancy and expertise and, where not available, to the use of technical resources from other developing countries;

5. *Requests* the Special Unit for TCDC, in collaboration with relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations and in full consultation with concerned countries to promote the use of information and communication technology, including southern research and development capacities, with a view to enhancing the sharing of knowledge and benefits of science and technology, *calls upon* the Special Unit to continue to assist developing countries, especially LDCs and African countries, to facilitate and enable their connectivity and use of

information and communication technology, as well as establishment of homepages in the Internet;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Special Unit in promoting South-South knowledge-sharing through compilation and dissemination of successful practices in developing countries, commends the efforts of the Special Unit for establishing an Internet-based gateway for South-South cooperation, Web of Information for Development (WIDE), and requests relevant institutions of the United Nations development system, including regional commissions, to make information in their existing databases on South-South cooperation activities more accessible through WIDE;

7. *Encourages* the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, in collaboration with the organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system, including regional commissions, to document and disseminate innovative and successful practices of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, including triangular cooperation arrangements and those supported by the organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system;

8. *Requests* the Special Unit for TCDC to assist, within its mandate, in documenting and disseminating the special problems and needs of the least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, with a view to helping to provide a platform for the international development community to help address such special problems and needs of these countries taking into account the concerns of transit developing countries, and *urges* developed and developing countries, the organizations and agencies of the United Nations, including regional commissions as well as development partners, to intensify their efforts to support South-South initiatives designed to benefit especially the least developed countries, landlocked and transit developing countries, small island developing States and countries in post-conflict and crisis situations, with a view to achieving sustainable development and more equitable integration into the global economy;

9. *Requests* the organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system, including regional commissions and other relevant multilateral institutions, to take further concrete measures to systematically integrate the use of the modalities of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries into their regular cooperation programmes in line with the new directions strategy with a view to supporting their effective implementation;

10. *Reiterates* the emphasis placed in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development on the need for multilateral and bilateral financial and development institutions to intensify efforts to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation as an important component of cooperation for development activities;

11. *Recognizes* the need to mobilize additional resources for enhancing South-South cooperation including triangular cooperation;

12. *Welcomes* the financial contributions made by some developed and developing countries to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation and to South-South triangular cooperation initiatives catalysed or managed by the Special Unit, and *invites* other developed countries, and developing countries that have the capacity to do so, to contribute to the Voluntary Trust Fund

for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation and the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries;

13. *Notes with interest* the thematic discussion on the role of the private sector in enhancing South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation, as well as the discussions on: remittances in promoting development; pharmaceuticals; and Information and Communication Technology for Development;

14. *Records with satisfaction* the celebration, during the thirteenth session, of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for promoting and implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 57/263 of 20 December 2002;

15. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to submit a comprehensive report to the High-level Committee at its fourteenth session on progress made in the implementation of South-South cooperation, including technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, and on the implementation of the present decision.

13/2 Overall framework for the promotion and application of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries

The High-level Committee,

Reiterating General Assembly resolution A/57/263,

Noting the reports of the Administrator of UNDP to the thirteenth session of the High-level Committee,

1. *Approves* the revised Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, including its Annex on the United Nations Common Results Framework on Technical and Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries; and urges relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to follow the Revised Guidelines and the Common Results Framework in the design, formulation, implementation, evaluation and reporting on their programmes;

2. *Notes with appreciation* General Assembly resolution A/57/263, in which it decided to include the Voluntary Trust Fund for Promotion of South-South Cooperation in the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, as long as it exists, and urges both developing and developed countries to make an effort with a view to making generous contributions to the Trust Fund, and further urges the Special Unit for TCDC to develop a clear system on the management and use of the resources in the Trust Fund;

3. *Welcomes* the emphasis on the promotion of South-South cooperation in the Administrator's Business Plan, and in this context, *calls upon* the Administrator of UNDP to promote the effectiveness of the TCDC focal point mechanism, especially at the regional level, and at the country level through the Resident Coordinator system;

4. *Decides* to change the name of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (SU/TCDC) to Special Unit for South-South Cooperation (SU/SSC) with no change in its mandate and the scope of its

activities, and decides to periodically review the functioning of the Special Unit in supporting and promoting South-South cooperation;

5. *Calls upon* United Nations funds and programmes and other parts of the UN development system to intensify TCDC mainstreaming efforts, by using relevant national, regional and international mechanisms, in consultation with Member States;

6. *Invites* the Bureau of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries to hold intersessional consultations aimed at informing Member States on the ongoing activities and on the progress made in accelerating the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and the New Direction Strategies;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of decision 2002/1 of the UNDP Executive Board which approved an annual allocation of $3.5 million for technical cooperation among developing countries during the next programming period, *reiterates* the need for increasing core resources of UNDP, which will also raise the volume of resources available for promoting South-South cooperation activities, and requests the executive boards of other funds and programmes to review, with a view to considering an increase, the allocation of resources for activities involving South-South cooperation;

8. *Requests* the Administrator of UNDP to report on the implementation of this decision to the High-level Committee at its fourteenth session.

13/3 Provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries

The High-level Committee,

Taking into account the views expressed at its thirteenth session,

Approves the following provisional agenda for its fourteenth session, to be held in 2005:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Review of progress made in implementing South-South cooperation including technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, and the decisions of the High-level Committee.
3. Consideration of reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme:
   (a) Implementation of the Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures and the United Nations Common Result Framework by the United Nations development system concerning South-South cooperation including economic and technical cooperation among developing countries;
   (b) Organizational and supportive arrangements for technical cooperation among developing countries (such as administrative, legal, informational and financial arrangements).

4. Thematic discussion (Theme to be decided on the basis of consultations that will be undertaken with Member States by the Bureau of the High-level Committee).

5. Adoption of the report of the Working Group.

6. Approval of the provisional agenda for the fifteenth session of the High-level Committee.

7. Other matters.

8. Adoption of the report of the High-level Committee on its fourteenth session.